What is a Permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box?

With the growing concern for misuse of prescription medication and water quality, the first 24/7 free standing permanent drug disposal site in Bergen County was recently established at the Paramus Police Department. Other police departments—Palisades Park, Park Ridge, River Vale, Leonia, Township of Washington, Waldwick and Ridgefield—have recently established the drop-off sites, with numerous other municipalities expressing interest.

A local initiative of the Bergen County Department of Health Services, Office of Alcohol & Drug Dependency’s County Municipal Alliance Program in cooperation with Consumer Affairs Division of the Attorney General’s Office, this community-based public health initiative highlights the problem of prescription drug abuse and enables Bergen County residents to contribute to the solution. The box is monitored and maintained by the police department, offering a place to drop off expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, no questions asked. The metal, locked box is similar to a mailbox and once the unwanted pills are dropped in, they cannot be removed nor can anyone reach into/through the door.

What can I put in a Permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box?

The Drop Box is clearly labeled to identify the materials that may be deposited, and the materials that may not be deposited.

- The Drop Box accepts household medications only.
- The Drop Box accepts pills, capsules, patches, and pet medications.
- The Drop Box accepts unused and/or expired over the counter and prescription medications.
- The Drop Box does not accept mail, trash, syringes, or liquids.

Why should I use a Permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box?

- Unused and/or expired medication, over the counter medication and prescription medication can be dropped off safely and anonymously
- Unused drugs are kept out of the hands of unintended users
- Reduced pollution; unused/unwanted drugs are incinerated, not flushed
Where can I find a Permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box?

Leonia Police Department
1 Wood Park, Leonia
201-944-0800

Palisades Park Police Department
275 Broad Ave, Palisades Park 07650
201-944-0900

Paramus Police Department
1 Carlough Drive, Paramus 07652
201-262-3400

Park Ridge Police Department
55 Park Ave., Park Ridge 07656
201-391-5400

Ridgefield Police Department
604 Broad Avenue, Ridgefield 07657
201-943-5210

River Vale Police Department
334 Rivervale Road, River Vale 07675
201-664-1111

Washington Township Police Department
350 Hudson Avenue, Township of Washington
201-664-1140

Waldwick Police Department
15 East Prospect Street, Waldwick 07463
201-652-5700

Municipalities approved for Drop Box establishment:
Allendale, Dumont, Lodi, Montvale, Oakland and Tenafly

Pending approval: Teaneck

Interest expressed:
Edgewater, Fair Lawn, Westwood, Maywood and Garfield

For more information about establishing a Permanent Prescription Drug Drop Box in your community, please contact Judy Forman, County Alliance Coordinator
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